

Remarks

Claims 1-9 and 12-26 are pending.

Claims 25 and 26 are withdrawn.

Claims 9 and 12-15 are canceled.

Claims 1, 16-19, 25 and 26 are amended.

Claims 1-8 and 16-26 will be pending upon entry of this amendment.

Claim 1 is amended to limit the migratory antistatic additives to be alkyl diethanolamides.

Claims 16-19, 25 and 26 are amended to depend on or to be consistent with claim 1.

No new matter is added.

Claims 1, 9, 12, 13, 15-20 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Iwasa, et al., U.S. published app. No. 2003/0072935.

Applicants respectfully rebut these rejections.

It is not seen that Iwasa teaches alkyl diethanolamides.

In view of this, Applicants submit that these 35 USC 102(e) rejections are overcome.

Claims 1-2, 9, 12-14 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Yamada, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,654,096.

These rejections are addressed and are overcome by the amendments to the present claims.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 12-14 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilti, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,965,206.

Applicants submit that these rejections are addressed and are overcome by amendment.

Claims 3 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Hilti in view of Ueda, et al., EP 613919.

Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilti in view of Kamiyama, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,162,545.

Applicants submit that these rejections are addressed and are overcome by amendment.

Claims 15-19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Hilti in view of Nishizawa, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,551,671.

The Examiner states on page 2 of the Action that the allowability of claim 19 is withdrawn in view of the newly found reference Nishizawa. The present claims are now limited to where the migratory antistatic additive is an alkyl diethanolamide.

Applicants respectfully rebut these rejections.

Lauryl diethanolamide is disclosed in Comparative Example 2 in col. 14 of Nishizawa.

Hilti is cited as disclosing polymers comprising polyetheresteramides.

Applicants submit that the outstanding results of the present invention could not at all have been expected from the combined disclosures of the cited references.

The outstanding success of the present invention is demonstrated in the working Examples on pages 29-31 of the disclosure. Please see the second Table on page 31. The migratory antistat M2

is lauryl bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amide. The permanent antistat is the polyetheresteramide P2. After washing (with water), it is seen that the combination of M2 and P2 provides unexpected success. The polypropylene fibers containing the combination of M2 and P2 are provided orders of magnitude greater conduction after washing than when they are employed alone. That is, the combination of M2 and P2 provide for 1 or 2 orders of magnitude greater conduction than when they are used alone.

In view of this outstanding success, Applicants submit that these rejections are addressed and are overcome.

Claims 1-9, 12-14 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Kamiyama in view of Kido, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,849,822.

Applicants submit that these rejections are overcome by amendment.

In view of the present amendments and the above discussion, Applicants submit that each of the claim rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

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Respectfully submitted,



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